

Port Orford Free Press

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A Publication of Citizens For A Free Port Orford

Beyond the Rule Of Law

- Dr. Obscure

Imagine if you could be the Mayor of a small rural town, even appoint your wife to head the local Planning Commission. You and she could join several organizations, join or even create new committees -- you could claim you were "just being civic minded citizens, just doing good things for your community."

Under this guise of "doing good things" you could manipulate procedures and rules so that your friends could gain control of public land for their own use -- all for the public good of course.

You could also circumvent procedure and the general Rule of Law, and openly grab public land for your own use, perhaps do the paperwork later -- but again -- "all for the public good"... because, after all, you do know best! The people elected YOU.. you have Carte Blanche -- you are above and "Beyond the Rule of Law".

- It's Good To Be The King!! -

Who funds P.O.O.R.T. ?

- Bret Webb

The following non-governmental organizations, foundations and consulting groups provided the Port Orford Ocean Resource Team with technical assistance or funding:

- David and Lucille Packard Foundation
- Ecotrust
- Environmental Defense
- Ford Family Foundation
- Golden Marine Consulting
- Pacific Marine Conservation Council
- Surfrider

(This information provided by the University of Michigan)

What do we really know about these partners and who funds THEM? The deeper one digs into

these partners agendas, the muddier the water gets.. Is this simply a corporate resource grab? Is P.O.O.R.T. really our local voice? Does the voice reflect that of local fisherman? Or a minority group of semi-retired fisherman looking for a way out? Truth is, P.O.O.R.T is viewed with disdain by the overwhelming majority of ocean resource dependents locally and regionally. Follow the money and you will find the truth.

Corporate greed wrapped in a "Green" coat?

Corporate control of our City Council and Port Commission?

What do we really know?

Johnathan Swift

- Dorene Ames

Jonathan Swift's satirical essay of 1729 was a strategy to open the eyes of royalty to the famine in Ireland, and although Mr. Hajek has adopted this style of writing for his own, he certainly uses it against public reform and instead situates it into a place where the public is usurped consistently by their own elected officials. There is little value to the letters he has generated continually over the past five years other than using satire to sling mud at the public---really offensive to many yet some seem entertained by this since they print Mr. Hajek's recapitulated nonsense as if it had value. It's only a writing style that a person might choose with an assumed audience that is ignorant, and moreover, ignorant of what is happening to our Mayor. So let me provide more accurate information than simply throwing sarcasm to and fro to distract you from a well-reasoned vote.

The Mayor has moved beyond

his elected official power and is now involved in an attempt to give away more of Battlerock City Park land to the Hawthornes, claims indenture by previous support to a commissioner, and continues to try and undermine the community that has sustained Port Orford through every period of crisis---the fishing fleet. Sad but true. All of this was brought out at the last city council meeting.

This form of governing by the Mayor might offer a possible explanation for Dianne Schofield. Listening to Dianne at a city council meeting, you will hear a person who cannot make a decision without first getting the Mayor's approval as in this recent meeting where a letterhead from the city, a symbol of the city seal, and the Mayor's signature appeared and, as Shayla our dutiful city attorney pointed out to everyone present, that this combined format sent a message that the City of Port Orford had approved charter government. Dianne stumbled, said she didn't understand and kept looking over to the Mayor for help while asking if the council could postpone it, saying she needed time to read it. The content was not what was in question of censure; it was the use of the city letterhead, city seal, and the Mayor's signature on a letter that conveyed in essence that Port Orford supported the charter by the combined use within the document's construction. When she failed to stop the censure, Matt Hall entered into the conversation on the censure, uninvited by council mind you, and he began his rhetoric which was, at its best, nonsensical.

At some point in time, Matt has

somehow empowered himself into an elite status of simply joining into the council discussion and not waiting for the public discussion. Maybe there is a law somewhere in the relics that says that if you own a newspaper in Curry County then you can be heard at any point in a Council discussion and not wait until public discussion. If that's the case then Matt should reason his notions before speaking. Matt began with his right as a newspaper to print a person's name and then enter their title. How he rationalized this as being the same as using city letterhead, city seal, and then a signature with your title and sending this off to other legislative bodies is beyond me—but he tried and a heckler had to point out his flawed logic. Let's hope the Mayor's collaborators will not be punished for their inability to think and reason.

There is a flip-side to all of this; if you have the ability to think and reason, and you step away from the Mayor, he will then publicly dismiss you! The Mayor openly attacked David Brock Smith in this last issue of the PON based upon this system of "favors" stating how he supported David in his run for commissioner and through an attempted recall of David; now that David cannot support the Mayor, the Mayor believes David should somehow be punished--really, Mayor? Why don't you ask yourself, Mayor, why someone whom you felt allegiance towards has walked away from you? What have you done or not done? Why would this happen after your lies were made public? Your fake group exposed? Your land giveaway exposed? Lastly, to the Mayor, as we discovered, you will give land away for favors---I happen to really enjoy the BattleRock area and would do you a favor as well Mayor if you will give

me that land—I will treat you good and plant more areas since as you claim this as a reason for wanting to gift over more land to the Hawthornes. I'll even paint you a picture if I haven't managed to do that here. Oh and Mayor, I was delighted to see your miraculous recovery and that you did not need the walker further after the meeting—good show! Your system of favors continues to usurp your duties to work with and for ALL the people of Port Orford and not simply your dinner guests

Verify your Vote

- staff report

If you are concerned that your voter ballot has been received and counted by the county, you may check it out on-line at

OregonVotes.gov.

Go to the MyVote page and enter the data as requested. You will be shown your last received ballot and the related information about you. check it out, make sure your vote was counted!

Cost of ReCalls

- Citizen Ames

My right to vote has had a price tag of \$3 and change put on it due to this recall and some suggest this is too expensive to have the right to be represented by an elected official and exercise the right to recall when the official fails to do so; however, as we learned in this last meeting, the Mayor contracted an employee and believed he could do so without contacting the state for approval to exempt the employee from the State's insurance program known to many as PERS. Subsequently, Port Orford now owes 45k in insurance premiums. He claimed he didn't know he couldn't do this. Upon activation and three years later, the State is asking us the citizens of Port Orford for \$45,000 dollars. I'll gladly pay the \$3 versus \$45,000 to recall

this Mayor compared to his hefty price tags of mistakes such as these based upon a claim of, "I thought I could do this" stance.

City Council Videos

- staff report

The Port Orford City Council meetings have been recorded by a citizens group and are available on-line at:

www.archive.org

Search for "port orford", or refine the search by adding a year "port orford 2014". In addition other special meetings have also been recorded and placed in the archive.

Calendar of Events

City Council meets the 3rd

Thursday of the month:

April 17th, 2014 - 3:30PM

Port Commission meets 3rd

Tuesday of the month:

April 15th, 2014 - 6PM

VOTE!

Please remember to vote and turn you ballots in to the depository, or mail in, as you prefer. It is our duty as citizens to participate in the act of democracy by exercising our right to vote and speak our minds at every opportunity.

VOTE!

"Those who surrender freedom for security will not have, nor do they deserve, either one"

- Benjamin Franklin

Notice

All submissions to the *Port Orford Free Press* must be made by email, in text only format – all other forms will be rejected.

Email submissions to:

PortOrfordFreePress@gmail.com